

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 054735

62

ORIGIN ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 SS-15 PRS-01 INR-07 INRE-00 SP-02

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DRAFTED BY ARA:WDROGERS:CJS

APPROVED BY ARA:WDROGERS

USOAS:RWHITE (DRAFT)

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O 052317Z MAR 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MANAGUA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 054735

STADIS////////////////////////////////////

FOR AMBASSADOR FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY ROGERS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:PFOR, PORG, NU

SUBJECT: OAS SECGEN ORFILA'S CRITICISM OF U.S. POLICY AND  
POLICYMAKERS

REF: MANAGUA 1054

1. AS I MENTIONED TO YOU ON THE TELEPHONE, I HAVE TALKED  
AT SOME LENGTH WITH ALEX ABOUT HIS LAMENTABLE EXCELSIOR  
INTERVIEW. I MADE CLEAR TO HIM THAT COMMENTS ABOUT  
THE INSENSITIVITY OF THE U.S. TOWARD LATIN AMERICA  
WERE NOT EXACTLY TIMELY JUST NOW IN THE WAKE OF THE  
SECRETARY'S VISIT.

2. BY NOW YOU WILL HAVE THE FULL TEXT OF WHAT HE SAID.  
PLAINLY, EXCELSIOR PLUCKED A FEW OF THE MORE LURID  
SENTENCES OUT OF CONTEXT FOR THE LEAD AND THE HEADLINES.  
ALEX IS SINCERELY DISTURBED THAT THIS SHOULD HAPPEN  
FOR, AS HE POINTS OUT, HE TRIED TO EMPHASIZE THAT HE  
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PAGE 02 STATE 054735

THINKS THE PRESENT ADMINISTRATION IS AS PERCEPTIVE

ABOUT CONTEMPORARY LATIN AMERICA, AND THE NEED TO GO BEYOND TUTELAGE, AS ANY IN RECENT MEMORY. HIS CRITICISM WAS MORE DIRECTED TO THE CONGRESS AND THE AMERICAN PEOPLE, AS A CLOSE READING OF THE STATEMENT SUGGESTS.

3. HOWEVER, I QUITE AGREE WITH YOU THAT HE WAS ILL-ADVISED, IF NOT IN GRANTING THE INTERVIEW IN THE FIRST PLACE, AT LEAST IN NOT RESTRAINING HIMSELF A BIT MORE. ALEX, HOWEVER, IS NOT ALWAYS CIRCUMSPECT WITH THE PRESS. I WOULD NOT ACCUSE HIM OF AMBITION, IN THIS CASE, HOWEVER, HE HAS NOT IN THE PAST FELT IT NECESSARY TO WHACK US JUST TO SHOW THAT HE IS QUALIFIED AS A POTENTIAL CHIEF OF STATE, AND I WILL BE SURPRISED IF WE SEE EVIDENCE OF THAT IN THE FUTURE, AT LEAST IF MY TALK WITH HIM IS ANY INDICATION.

4. IT WILL BE INTERESTING TO SEE IF THE BLOOD-CURDLING STORIES IN THE MANAGUA PRESS WERE TYPICAL OF THE OTHER CAPITALS. WE WILL ASK. KISSINGER

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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